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COLU.
THE LATE 30TH CENTURY.
BRAINIAC 5 PERSONAL LOG ENTRY #30100303:
I DIDN'T GET TO CHOOSE MY NAME.
MY MOTHER NAMED ME QUERL DOX, AFTER HER GREAT, GREAT GRANDFATHER WHO WAS LOST WHILE MINING COLU'S MOON.
MY FATHER ALSO CHOSE A FAMILY NAME FOR ME.
ONE THAT MADE ME A TARGET.
UNH--!
LET THIS BE A LESSON TO YOU, "BRAINIAC."
YOU CAN'T OUTTHINK A FIST.
STOP TRYING TO SKIP UP TO OUR GRADE, QUERL DOX.
YOU KEEP TRYING AND WE'LL KEEP MAKING YOUR LIFE HARDER. WE DON'T CARE HOW SMART YOUR TEST SCORES MAKE YOU OUT TO BE.
AND IF YOU'RE AS INTELLIGENT AS YOU CLAIM, "BRAINIAC"--
--WHY DID YOU RENAME YOURSELF AFTER THE MOST HATED COLUAN IN HISTORY?
..."HATED"?
AS A CHILD, I KNEW THAT "BRAINIAC" WAS A FAMILY NAME THAT HADN'T BEEN USED FOR GENERATIONS. I DIDN'T KNOW WHY.

I QUICKLY LEARNED.
BRAINIAC 1 WAS MY GREAT, GREAT, GREAT, GREAT GRANDFATHER ON MY FATHER'S SIDE.
HE LIVED A THOUSAND YEARS AGO. THE MOST KNOWLEDGEABLE BEING IN THE UNIVERSE.
HE SHOULD'VE BEEN SOMEONE I LOOKED UP TO. INSPIRATION FOR A SMALL BOY WHO NEEDED IT.
BUT BRAINIAC 1 WAS FLAWED. HE DIDN'T EARN THAT KNOWLEDGE THROUGH HARD WORK OR STUDY.
HE STOLE IT.
BRAINIAC CROSSED THE UNIVERSE A HUNDRED TIMES OVER, KIDNAPPING RACES AND BOTTLING THEM UP SO HE COULD FEED OFF THEIR INFORMATION, LIKE SOME PARTS OF OUR CULTURE.
HE WAS NOTHING MORE THAN A THOUGHT-THIEF...
WORLDS DESTROYED
·ARKHEON
·AUROS
·BLIGHT WORLD
·CALUFRAX MAJOR
·CUNDIFF
·DURLA I
·IMSK
·KROP TOR
·LARRADO
·LANOTHIA
·LEXOR
·RIMBOR
...AND MY FATHER HAD GIVEN ME HIS CURSED NAME.
"WHY?"

WHY would you give me that NAME!?
BRAINIAC was a CRIMINAL! One of the THOUGHT-TYRANTS of the 21st century! He was responsible for the extinction of HUNDREDS of races!
He was so hated that Colu outlawed the use of the title "Brainiac" for almost a THOUSAND years! Until--
Until I RECLAIMED our family's name and called myself "Brainiac 4."
Yes, exactly! Why did you do that, father? What GOOD did you think would come of it?
Brainiac was our ANCESTOR, Querl. We are his descendants--however blessed or cursed that makes us.
It's up to US--you and I--to RETAKE that name and make our family title something Colu is PROUD of.
Something the universe will ADMIRE, not FEAR.
I TRIED, but now it's your turn. YOUR time. Soon, the entire universe will know you're the SMARTEST being in it.
UNIVERSE? What do you mean?
I received a holocall today from a man named R.J. Brande.
Tell me, Brainiac 5. Have you ever heard of the LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES?
5 After studying at the Time Institute, I begrudgingly joined the team, trying to do right by the name "Brainiac." I've come to accept my name--even enjoy its implication.
It says exactly what I want it to say--

SUPERMAN: LAST STAND OF NEW KRYPTON

PROLOGUE: PART ONE: THE FUTURE IS PROLOGUE

Sterling Gates Writer Travis Moore Penciller
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Wil Moss Asst. Editor Matt Idelson Editor

EARTHGOV SCIENCE OUTPOST DELTA 2.
THE 31ST CENTURY.
--AND IT ISN'T A GOOD ONE.
ALL RIGHT, LEGIONNAIRES. THAT RIFT IN SPACE IS PULLING SCIENCE OUTPOST DELTA 2 INTO IT.
BAD NEWS IS, THERE ARE SIX SCIENTISTS INSIDE THAT OUTPOST WHO CAN'T BE EVACUATED NORMALLY BECAUSE OF THE RIFT'S GRAVITY. THE OUTPOST HAS ALREADY SUSTAINED SOME DAMAGE.
EARTHGOV HAS ASKED THE LEGION TO MAKE SURE THESE SCIENTISTS GET OUT ALIVE. AS LONG AS WE DON'T GET ANY MORE BAD NEWS, WE SHOULD BE IN AND OUT--
I'VE GOT BAD NEWS.
I JUST DOWNLOADED THE OUTPOST'S COMPUTER FILES. THAT RIFT WAS THE SIZE OF A PINPOINT TWO HOURS AGO.
OBVIOUSLY, IT'S GOTTEN BIGGER.
OBVIOUSLY.
IF MY CALCULATIONS ARE CORRECT--AND THEY'RE ALWAYS CORRECT--IF THE RIFT'S GROWTH GOES UNCHECKED, IT WILL DESTROY THE OUTPOST IN THE NEXT SIX MINUTES...
...THEN GO ON TO SWALLOW THE UNIVERSE IN A MATTER OF DAYS.
HRRF. NEVER EASY WITH US, IS IT?
BRAINIAC 5, SEE IF YOU CAN FIND A WAY TO STOP THAT RIFT. WE'VE GOT FIVE MINUTES TO SAVE THESE SCIENTISTS, GUYS, SO--

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WILDFIRE - DRAKE BURROUGHS
HOMEWORLD: EARTH / ABILITIES: ENERGY BLASTS AND MANIPULATION, IS COMPOSED OF ANTI-ENERGY
DAWNSTAR
HOMEWORLD: STARHAVEN, EARTH COLONY
ABILITIES: LONG-RANGE TRACKING
--LET'S GO, LEGIONNAIRES!
LIGHTNING LASS - AYLA RANZZ
HOMEWORLD: WINATH
ABILITIES: ELECTRICAL GENERATION AND DIRECTION
TIMBER WOLF - BRIN LONDO
HOMEWORLD: ZUUN
ABILITIES: SUPER-HUMAN STRENGTH AND SPEED
COMPUTER, FIRE BASIC PROBE. MAXIMUM SHIELDING.
FIRING PROBE #1.
SSSCHHHOW

DAWNSTAR.
I SENSE FOUR OF THEM IN THE AREAS ABOVE US. TWO OTHERS ARE BELOW. THEY SEEM TO BE... TRAPPED.
I'LL GO AFTER THE TWO DOWN LOW.
WE'LL GO AFTER THEM.
PROBE #1 HAS ACHIEVED CONTACT.
GOOD. BEGIN A DATA STREAM.

COSMIC BOY, I'M GETTING MORE READINGS ON THAT RIFT... INTERESTING. IT APPEARS TO BE A CHRONAL TEAR.
CHRONAL? WHAT'S THE SOURCE?
STILL ANALYZING INCOMING DATA--
ANH ANHH ANH
COSMIC BOY, THAT RIFT IS GROWING FASTER! YOU HAVE LESS THAN ONE MINUTE BEFORE THE OUTPOST IS PULLED IN--
ROGER THAT, BRAINY. DON'T WORRY--
"--WE'LL MAKE IT."
SHRRNNKK
HRRRR. AYLA, THEY'RE IN HERE!
L-LEGION!
AW, C'MON, GUYS. DON'T LOOK SO SHOCKED TO SEE US.
FLLLLAAAOW

HERE YOU GO. TAKE IT EASY...
THANK YOU. THANK YOU FOR SAVING US FROM THAT...THAT THING...
I CONTACTED THE TIME INSTITUTE.
THIS ISN'T THE ONLY CHRONAL TEAR.
IN THE LAST SIX HOURS, RIFTS LIKE THIS HAVE APPEARED ACROSS THE UNIVERSE, EATING AWAY AT THE DARK MATTER.
MY PROBE WASN'T EQUIPPED TO HANDLE THE RAVAGES OF A CHRONAL TEAR, BUT IT STAYED INTACT LONG ENOUGH TO TRACE THE SOURCE OF THE ANOMALY BACK A THOUSAND YEARS.
SOMEONE IN THE PAST HAS CREATED AN ANOMALY BIG ENOUGH THAT ALL OF TIME/SPACE IS AT RISK.
WE'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO EARTH.
I'M GOING TO NEED THE EQUIPMENT IN MY LAB.
YOU SAID "SOMEONE", BRAINY--WHO?
HE'S WHY WE'VE HAD TROUBLE WITH TIME TRAVEL THE LAST YEAR. THE REASON IT'S BEEN LOCKED OFF FROM US.
HE'S TEARING OUR UNIVERSE APART FROM A THOUSAND YEARS AGO, AND HE'S SOMEHOW STOPPING US FROM GOING BACK.
THE MOST HATED COLUAN IN HISTORY--
KLIK

--MY ANCESTOR. THE MAN I'M NAMED FOR.
BRAINIAC
I HAVE TO STOP HIM FROM MURDERING SUPERMAN BEFORE HE DESTROYS A THOUSAND YEARS OF HISTORY.
IN ONE WEEK, FOLLOW BRAINIAC INTO
SUPERMAN:
LAST STAND OF NEW KRYPTON #1
AND BE HERE NEXT MONTH AS BRAINIAC'S TRAILS TO GO BACK TO THE PAST TO SAVE THE FUTURE

SMALLVILLE, KANSAS.
THE 21ST CENTURY.
CONNER, ARE YOU UP THERE?
I'M SURE HE IS, MR. JANSON. I'M CERTAIN I HEARD HIM EARLIER.
DOING HOMEWORK, I BET.
HE SAYS YOU'RE PRETTY GOOD ABOUT IT, BUT MRS. TUCKER IN HISTORY LOVES HER ESSAY ASSIGNMENTS.
CONNER!
YEAH, MA...
...I'M COMING DOWN.

MR. JANSON! THIS IS A SURPRISE.
IF I'D KNOWN IT WAS YOU, I'D HAVE BEEN DOWN SOONER.
HOMEWORK, MRS. TUCKER--
YEAH, I HEAR SHE'S ONE FOR ESSAYS.
NOTHING WRONG WITH HISTORY THOUGH, CONNER. STUDY THE PAST AND IT'LL VERY OFTEN REVEAL THE FUTURE.
I DON'T MEAN TO BE RUDE, MRS. KENT, BUT...
...WHAT I HAVE TO SPEAK TO CONNER ABOUT...
...IT'S SENSITIVE.
YOU WANT PRIVACY. OF COURSE.
ALTHOUGH... UM...CONNER ISN'T IN ANY KIND OF TROUBLE, IS HE?
NO, NOTHING LIKE THAT. HE'S A VERY GOOD KID.
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT.
I'LL BE IN THE KITCHEN IF YOU NEED ME.
SO, MR. JANSON, WHAT'S UP?
LIKE I TOLD YOUR MA...
...I NEED TO TALK TO YOU.
I'M ALL EARS.
THE THING IS, ME, YOUR CHEMISTRY TEACHER... I'M NOT THE ONE WHO SHOULD BE DOING THE TALKING.
NOW YOU'RE STARTING TO LOSE ME. NOT YOU? YOU'RE HERE. WHO THEN?
I GUESS WHAT I'M TRYING TO SAY IS...

GRANT
MORRISON
ANDY
CLARKE
BATMAN
ROBIN
BEGINNING WITH #10 MARCH 2010
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DC
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SUPERMAN:

LAST STAND OF NEW KRYPTON

PROLOGUE PART TWO:

THE FUTURE IS NOW

James Robinson Writer Julian López Penciller
Bit Inker Pete Pantazis Colorist Steve Wands Letterer
Wil Moss Asst. Editor Matt Idelson Editor

AND SO...
...OF COURSE I TRUST YOU.
THEN COME WITH ME NOW TO SMALLVILLE.*
* TO SEE HOW SUPERBOY RECRUITED MON-E... CHECK OUT LAST WEEK'S SUPERMAN #697. --IDELSON
SO THEY'RE ALL AT YOUR FARM, THIS "LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES ESPIONAGE SQUAD"?
AND QUITE A CAST, TOO. NICE THOUGH, ALL OF THEM... I MEAN, STARMAN'S A BIT WEIRD, BUT APART FROM THAT...
AND YOU CAN'T TELL ME WHAT THIS IS ABOUT?
IT'S NOT THAT I CAN'T, BUDDY...

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SALUTES

DC COMICS

ON 75 YEARS OF THE HERO GETTING THE GIRL!

YEAH. HE ACED IT!

PACKED WITH HUNDREDS OF MINI BREATH STRIPS...

...FOR A COOL RUSH OF CONFIDENCE SO YOU ALWAYS ACE THE KISS.

ALL-STAR SUPERMAN #3, May 2006
Writer: GRANT MORRISON
Penciller: FRANK QUITELY
Inker: JAMIE GRANT

"...I JUST THINK IT'S BEST IF YOU HEARD IT FROM THEM."
WE DON'T HAVE LONG, SO I'LL GET TO IT. YOU HAVE TO BELIEVE ME, MON, WHEN I TELL YOU WE MEAN NO HARM TO YOU, TO EARTH, OR ANYONE ON IT FOR THAT MATTER.
I THINK I DO, CHAMELEON BOY.
I MEAN... YOU HELPED ME SO MANY TIMES IN METROPOLIS AS CONTROL WHEN YOU HAD THAT IDENTITY.
AND YOU, SENSOR GIRL, WHEN YOU WERE WILCOX.
MITCH... MATTER-EATER LAD... THE GIVER OF GOOD FOOD AND ADVICE.
REALLY GLAD YOU THOUGHT SO, MON. I SURE TRIED.
EVEN QUISLET AS HOVER-CAM 2 HELPED SAVE MY LIFE.
AS FOR THE REST OF YOU...
TELLUS, I'VE MET YOU...BRIEFLY. BUT JIM HARPER, THE GUARDIAN, CERTAINLY TRUSTS YOU.
FRIEND HARPER.
STARMAN I KNOW OF... THE JUSTICE SOCIETY...
NOT TO MENTION MY ILLUSTRIOUS TENURE IN THE BALLETS RUSSES.
ER... YEAH, AND ALL THAT.
AND CONNER VOUCHES FOR ELEMENT LAD.
SO YOU NEED MY HELP-- HERE I AM.
WE'RE FROM THE FUTURE, MON.
WE WERE SENT HERE BY MY FATHER.
A GREAT AND VERY WISE MAN.
EACH OF US WITH INSTRUCTIONS FROM HIM...
...HIS "LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT," HE CALLED IT.
WHAT WE DIDN'T KNOW IS THAT EACH "WILL" WAS DIFFERENT.
YES, DIFFERENT INSTRUCTIONS THAT WE WEREN'T ALLOWED TO SHARE EVEN WITH EACH OTHER.
"FIRST RULE OF FIGHT CLUB." GOT IT.
CHAM'S FATHER, R.J. BRANDE, WAS VERY CAREFUL ABOUT THAT...HOW US KNOWING TOO MUCH TOO SOON MIGHT MESS WITH THE PAST EVEN MORE THAN IT ALREADY HAD BEEN.

THOUGH I CAME HERE FIRST.
TO MINE FOR RICHES. YEAH...THAT'S IT...I WAS SUPPOSED TO HUNT FOR OPALS.
NO. WAIT. HUNT FOR RICHES IN OPAL.
LET ME TALK, THOM. I'LL EXPLAIN.
YEAH. NO. NOT RICHES... BEAUTY.
I HAD TO FIND BEAUTY... "THE BEAUTY." THAT'S WHAT HE TOLD ME.
BUT THAT'S WHAT HE SAID TO ME.
I KNOW, THOM. NOW SHHH, FRIEND, LET ME SPEAK.
MOST OF US WERE TOLD TO FIT INTO THE WORLD OF METROPOLIS.
AND ME, SMALLVILLE.
YEAH, YOU GUYS SEEMED SO MUCH A PART OF MY LIFE THERE.
MY FATHER TOLD ME TO GUARD YOU...TO SQUIRE YOU.
YEAH, MON, YOU ESPECIALLY...HELP YOU TO GROW INTO THE HERO YOU'RE DESTINED TO BE.
WELL, THANKS, I GUESS.
YOU, TOO, CONNER, BUT YOU WERE FURTHER ALONG IN DOING THE WHOLE HERO THING. I WAS ENOUGH OF A LOOKOUT--ME AND TELLUS AT LEAST.
OKAY, BUT WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL ABOUT US THAT'S SO IMPORTANT TO THE FUTURE?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, THE FUTURE'S "IN DANGER"?
AND THAT'S AN ANSWER WE DON'T KNOW. MY FATHER WASN'T 100% ON THE HOW AND WHY.
ALL WE KNOW IS THE FUTURE IS FROZEN...IT'S IN DANGER AND YOU'RE A PART OF WHAT FIXES IT.
WELL, TO BE MORE PRECISE, THE FUTURE OF THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES.
AND IF WE'RE NOT AROUND ONE DAY TO PROTECT THE UNIVERSE, COUNTLESS TERRIBLE THINGS WILL COME TO PASS.
ALL RIGHT, FIX THE PRESENT, SAVE THE FUTURE. GOT THAT, TOO. SO LET'S BOOK.
I'M WITH CONNER, WHEN DO WE START?
NOW. THIS THING NEEDS FIXING RIGHT NOW OR WE ARE DONE.
'KAY. WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?
YEAH, WHAT PART OF EARTH ARE WE HEADED TO?
EARTH?
JEKKIE? WILL YOU?
SURE.
SO, TELL ME, GUYS...

...YOU EVER BEEN TO NEW KRYPTON?
TO BE CONTINUED IN
SUPERMAN:
LAST STAND OF NEW KRYPTON
#1

HEADQUARTERS OF PROJECT 7734.
MARCH 3, 2010.
I DID THIS.
A SMALL DEVICE, WITH KRYPTONIAN SUNSTONE COMPONENTS AND AN NTH-METAL SHEATH TO MAGNIFY ITS EFFECTS.
SUITABLE "EVIDENCE" THAT KRYPTONIANS AND OTHER OFFWORLDERS BRING ONLY DEATH.*
* SEE ACTION #885 & SUPERMAN #686 --MA**
THE HUMANS' FEAR OF ALIENS IS A USEFUL TOOL.
THEY'LL BE ASKING THEMSELVES, "ARE THE THANAGARIANS INVOLVED? ARE THEY AGAINST US, TOO?"
AND THEIR FEAR WILL CAUSE THEM TO GRASP, PLEADINGLY, FOR ANY HELPING HAND THEY CAN FIND.
BUT THEY WILL ONLY FIND ME.
I AM CAR-VEX. HANDPICKED BY GENERAL ZOD HIMSELF. DISPATCHED TO THIS MUDBALL TO SOW CHAOS BEFORE THE INEVITABLE AND NECESSARY EXTERMINATION OF THIS WORLD'S HUMAN INFESTATION.
WELL, OFFICER ROMUND!...

RISE AND FALL

WHAT SECRET WILL THE EMERALD ARCHER REVEAL THAT CHANGES EVERYTHING?

WRITTEN BY J.T. KRUL

JUSTICE LEAGUE
RISE AND FALL SPECIAL
ART BY
MIKE MAYHEW
DIOGENES NEVES
FABRIZIO FIORENTINO

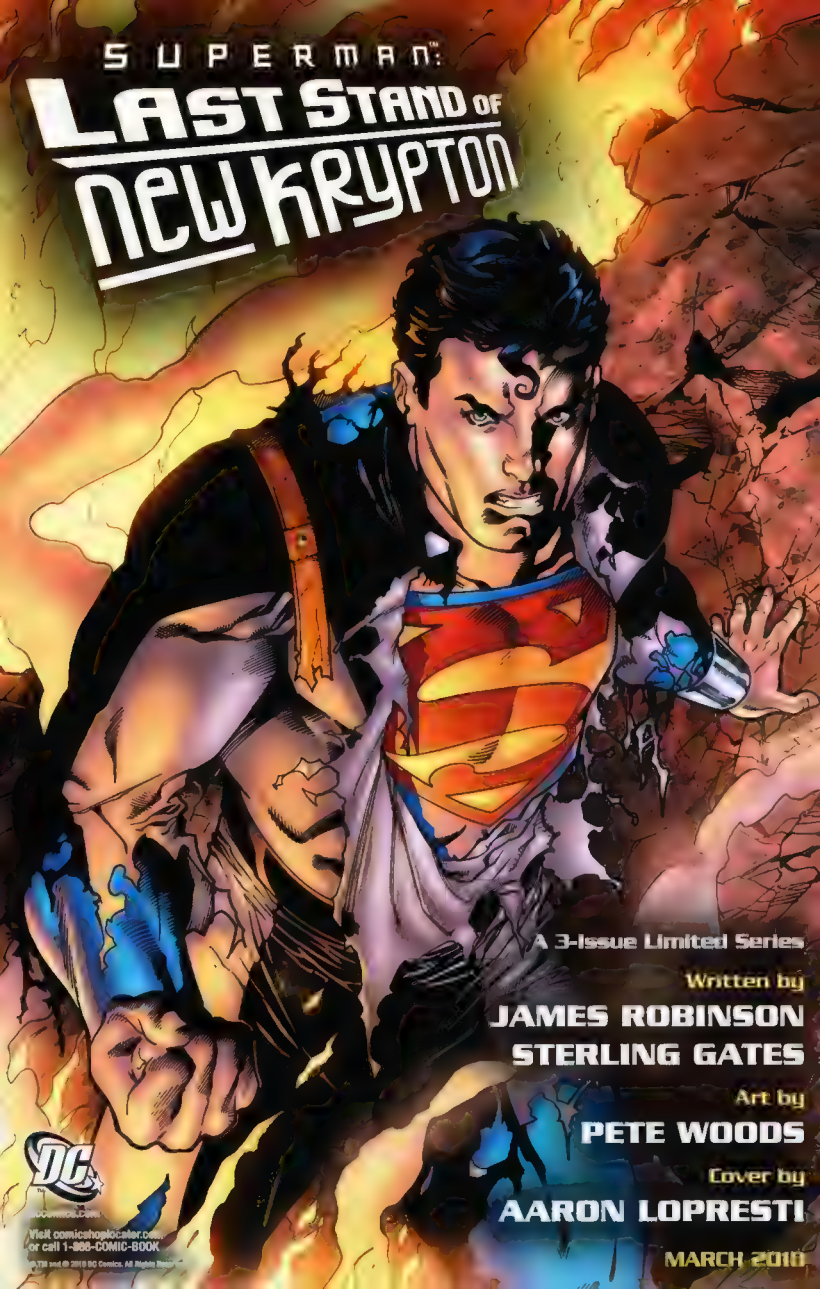
THE RISE OF
ARSENAL
4-ISSUE LIMITED SERIES
ART BY GERALDO BORGES

THE FALL OF
GREEN ARROW
#'s 31 & 32
ART BY FEDERICO DALLOCCHIO

...IT APPEARS I OWE YOU MY THANKS.
NO THANKS ARE NECESSARY, GENERAL LANE.
THAT BLAST WOULD'VE KILLED ME, IT CERTAINLY TOOK OUT A LOT OF MY MEN--
AND MINE.
--AND YOURS.
SO, LET'S TALK ABOUT THAT.
YOUR RECORD IS PRACTICALLY A TEXTBOOK. NO REPRIMANDS, NO BLEMISHES, EVEN PERFECT ATTENDANCE. A SOLID RECORD WITH COAST CITY'S BLUE WAVES, AND THEN YOU TRANSFERRED TO METROPOLIS'S SCIENCE POLICE.
ROMUNDI
THE FILE SAYS A LOT. AND SO DO YOUR ACTIONS.
OUR COMM LOGS RECORDED YOUR AUTHORIZATION CODE ON THE TIP THAT WARNED US NIGHTWING AND FLAMEBIRD WERE IN SCIENCE POLICE CUSTODY.
AND YOU WERE THE ONE THAT PUSHED ME OUT OF HARM'S WAY WHEN THE KRYPTONIAN BOMB WENT OFF
YOU'RE AS PURE AS THE DRIVEN SNOW, OFFICER ROMUNDI, SO WHY COME GET YOUR HANDS DIRTY WITH US?
WHO ARE YOU REALLY?
LIKE THE FILE SAYS: I'M A GOOD OFFICER. I WANT JUSTICE TO BE DONE.
THE K'S HAVE, TWICE NOW, SLAUGHTERED MY BROTHER OFFICERS.
THEY'VE PROVEN THEY'RE NOT TO BE TRUSTED. YOU AND YOUR PEOPLE ARE THE ONLY ONES DOING ANYTHING ABOUT IT.
SO HERE I AM. PUT ME TO WORK.
LET ME HELP YOU KILL KRYPTONIANS.
IT IS GOOD TO HAVE PURPOSE AGAIN. FOR SO LONG, I HAD NO FUNCTION.

LEAVING ME LITTLE MORE THAN A PHANTOM.
THE PHANTOM ZONE.
YEARS AGO.
GREAT FATHER RAO. PLEASE. I'M NOT A KILLER. I'M NOT A KILLER. I'M NOT. I'M--
YOU'RE BORING. YOU'VE BEEN WANDERING AROUND THE VOID FOR UNCOUNTED YEARS, AND YET YOU'RE STILL BABBLING ABOUT YOUR INNOCENCE.
WHA?!!
YOU'RE CAR-VEX. LABOR GUILD, IF I RECALL. THE NEGLECTFUL OPERATOR OF A GRAVITY WAVE PROJECTOR, AND FOUND GUILTY OF LETHAL NEGLIGENCE.
WHAT WAS IT YOU DESTROYED? A BIRTHING CRECHE, OR INFANT INSTRUCTION FACILITY? DEAD CHILDREN, IN ANY EVENT.
AT THE TIME, YOU COULD PRACTICALLY LEAP TALL BUILDINGS FROM ALL THE ADRENOSTIMULANTS YOU'D POUNDED INTO YOUR SYSTEM.
THEY DO WORK YOU LABOR GUILDERS SO VERY HARD, DON'T THEY?
NO DOUBT THAT HAD SOME IMPACT ON THE OUTCOME OF YOUR TRIAL.
WHO... WHO ARE YOU?
JAX-UR. IMPRISONED LONG AFTER YOU WERE LOCKED AWAY HERE, MY DEAR.
COME. THE GENERAL WANTS TO MEET YOU.

I AM SO VERY CLOSE NOW. MY GENERAL WOULD SWELL WITH PRIDE AT HOW FAR I'VE COME.
WE'RE NOT A COUNTRY CLUB, OFFICER. WE DON'T JUST ACCEPT APPLICATIONS.
I'VE ALREADY GOT PLENTY OF SHOOTERS. BETTER QUALIFIED ONES, AT THAT. YOU SHOULD STICK TO POLICE WORK.
KNOW LOST CHILD IS DEADLY WEAPON.
UNLESS YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING I NEED.
IT WILL TAKE JUST A NUDGE TO PUSH HIM FROM SUSPICION TO BELIEF.
I'M NO FOOL, GENERAL. I DIDN'T COME HERE EMPTY-HANDED.
TOOK ME SIX MONTHS TO RUN DOWN CERTAIN... LEADS.
JUST A NUDGE.
ANOTHER TWO TO VERIFY EVERYTHING I'VE GOT HERE. ALL OFF THE BOOKS. I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS WHAT I'M ABOUT TO GIVE YOU.
SO YOU CAN BELIEVE ME WHEN I TELL YOU...
AND THE COST OF MY SOUL.
...YOU NEED THIS.
YOU NEED ME.



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AND THIS IS...?
PROOF THAT THE KRYPTONIANS HAVE INFILTRATED HUMAN SOCIETY.
EVIDENCE THAT THEY'RE HERE, AND PREPARING TO STRIKE AT US.
THE K'S LEFT SOME OF THEIR RECORDS BEHIND AFTER THEY DEPARTED EARTH. AND IT WAS MY JOB TO COMB THROUGH THEM. THAT'S WHERE IT STARTED.
HIS NAME IS QUEX-UL.
SENTENCED TO THEIR PRISON SYSTEM--THE PHANTOM ZONE--FOR GROTESQUE MEDICAL EXPERIMENTS. HE'S THEIR DR. MENGELE.
..WHERE IS HE?
I PICKED UP HIS TRAIL AGAIN AFTER NIGHTWING AND FLAMEBIRD TANGLED WITH OFFWORLD WARTECH A FEW WEEKS AGO.*
BUT WITH HIS HISTORY, I THINK HE'S HARVESTING LETHAL MATERIALS FROM HIS JOBSITES, IN ORDER TO MAKE A WEAPON.
CANADA, HOLED UP IN THE WILDERNESS.
HIS COVER IS ROBERTSON, EDWARD. LOW-LEVEL EMPLOYEE OF AN "EXOTIC MATERIALS" HAZMAT TEAM BASED IN TORONTO.
* SEE ACTION #883 "MA"
SO YOU TELL ME:
DOES THAT SEEM LIKE SOMETHING YOU COULD USE?
YES.
WELCOME TO OUR WAR, OFFICER ROMUNDI.

REMAIN CALM.
THAT'S THE SECRET MY GENERAL TAUGHT ME. NEVER LET ELATION AT SUCCESS LEAD TO OVERCONFIDENCE.
IMPRESSIVE.
HOW... HOW DID YOU BUILD ALL THIS?
COMSAT 07 REPORTS
RETASKING HUBBLE
HARD WORK, AND A FEW HUNDRED BILLION IN BLACK BUDGET FUNDING. SOME HELP FROM...OUTSIDE INTERESTS.
PRISONER RESTRAINT TESTS SUCCESSFUL
HIGH-RES IMAGING ENABLED
AMMUNITION LOADING ON SCHEDULE
QUARTER-MASTER REPORTS FULL STOCK
HARDEN YOUR HEART. FEEL NEITHER JOY IN YOUR TRIUMPH, NOR PITY FOR YOUR FOE.
TEN-HUT!
GOOD AFTERNOON, GENERAL.
TO DEFEAT AN ADVERSARY, YOU MUST BE AS STONE.
AS YOU WERE, LIEUTENANT.
WHAT'S THE STATUS OF SGT. CLOUD AND HIS TEAM?
OPERATIONAL. SHEPHARD'S STILL NURSING A BROKEN ARM FROM THE METROPOLIS OP, AND COLLINS IS DOWN WITH CONCUSSION.
HIS RESERVE TROOPS'RE UP AND READY, AND CLOUD IS CALLING IT GREEN ACROSS THE BOARD. OF COURSE, HE COULD BE DOWN FIFTY MEN AND WOULD STILL CLAIM HE'S GOOD TO GO.
GOOD. PUT 'EM IN THE FIELD BY 1800. OFFICER ROMUNDI HERE HAS PROVIDED US WITH AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY.
YES, SIR.
I AM A STONE.
YOU'RE STILL TESTING ME, THAT MUCH IS OBVIOUS.
MAY I ASK YOU A QUESTION, GENERAL?
ASK AWAY. I CAN'T PROMISE AN ANSWER.
YOU ASKED WHY I WANT TO BE HERE. BUT WHAT ABOUT YOU?
THEY KILLED MEN I WORKED WITH, SO I WANT THEM DEAD. WHY DO YOU HATE THEM SO MUCH?
...BECAUSE IT'S THE ONLY SANE RESPONSE.

"YOU'RE YOUNG ENOUGH YOU PROBABLY DON'T REMEMBER THE FIRST TIME HE SHOWED HIMSELF.
Daily Planet
MEET THE CITY'S NEW SAVIOUR-SUPERMAN!
"HE CAME OUT OF NOWHERE. SAVED MY DAUGHTER, OF ALL PEOPLE. HE RESCUED HER, AND EVERYONE LOVED HIM FOR IT.
"BUT IT SCARED THE HELL OUT OF ME.
"HE HAD CLEARLY BEEN LIVING HERE FOR A LONG TIME BEFORE SHOWING HIMSELF. THAT MEANT HE HAD SOMETHING TO HIDE
"HE HAD SECRETS. AND IN MY WORLD, SECRETS ARE THREATS.
"EVEN MY OWN DAUGHTER WAS BLIND TO THAT THREAT.
BY LOIS LANE
"WHO WAS HE? WHAT COULD HE DO? WE ONLY KNEW WHAT HE TOLD US.
"THE ULTIMATE PROPAGANDA VICTORY: HIS OWN PET NEWS ORGAN, TELLING US HOW WONDERFUL HE WAS.
"BUT WHAT IF HE WASN'T? WHAT WOULD WE DO THEN?
"HOW WOULD WE STOP HIM?
"HOW WOULD WE PROTECT OURSELVES? OUR FAMILIES?

"AND THEY SPRANG UP EVERYWHERE, SEEMINGLY FOLLOWING SUPERMAN'S 'EXAMPLE.'
"IT WAS YEARS LATER, DURING THE DOMINATOR INVASION, THAT I SAW WHAT THE REAL THREAT WAS.
CAMP FOXHOUND.
DIVISIONAL COMMAND POST, TASK FORCE BLADE, WESTERN FRANCE.
SAPPERS IN THE WIRE! GUNS UP! GUNS UP!
MORTAR SUPPORT! CALL IN MORTAR SUPPORT ON THIS POSITION! FIRE FOR EFFECT!
BLAM BLAM
"KHUNDS HAD PENETRATED THE PERIMETER, LAUGHING AS THEY MURDERED MY MEN.
"'MEN.' MOST OF THEM TOO YOUNG TO DRINK A BEER. AMERICAN FIGHTING MEN BLEEDING OUT ON EUROPEAN SOIL ONCE AGAIN.
"AND THEN, SUPERMAN ARRIVED TO SAVE THE DAY.
AAAAAH!
NO... NO...NO!
PLEASE LET HIM BE...
MY LEG!
GOD IT HURTS!
SOMEBODY HELP ME!
"SWEPT AWAY THE KHUNDS LIKE THEY WEREN'T EVEN THERE. THEY'D TORN THROUGH US LIKE TISSUE PAPER. BUT NEXT TO HIM, THEY WERE NOTHING.
NYAARGH!
MEDIC!
"MEANING WE WERE LESS THAN NOTHING TO HIM."
MEDIC!

AND SINCE HE ARRIVED, WE'VE BEEN THE TARGET OF LORD KNOWS HOW MANY ALIEN ATTACKS.
AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY
HE STANDS UP, TAKES THE APPLAUSE, AND MY MEN BLEED OUT ON THE BATTLEFIELD.
THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE.
USE OF LETHAL FORCE AUTHORIZED BEYOND THIS POINT
WE'RE HERE TO REMIND HUMANS THAT IT'S OUR PLANET, NOT THEIRS.
THAT MEN AND WOMEN LIKE US HAVE TAKEN OATHS TO PROTECT THEM, NO MATTER WHAT IT TAKES.
DOES THAT ANSWER YOUR QUESTION, OFFICER?
IT DOES. THANK YOU, GENERAL.
I AM A STONE.

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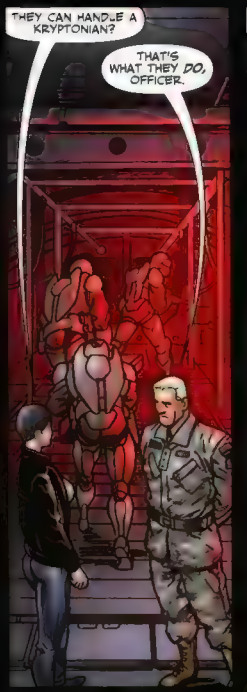
SGT. CLOUD.
WHAT'S THE WORD, GENERAL?
ROGUE KRYPTONIAN, NORTHERN CANADA. HOW DOES THAT SOUND?
SOUNDS LIKE A BLAST, GENERAL. SQUAD K STANDS READY TO KILL ALIEN INVADERS, SIR!


THEY CAN HANDLE A KRYPTONIAN?
THAT'S WHAT THEY DO, OFFICER.

SQUAD K HAS ONE MISSION ONLY: TO KILL KRYPTONIANS.
ASSAULT RIFLES THAT FIRE BULLETS CAST FROM A SYNTHETIC KRYPTONITE ALLOY, SONIC PROJECTORS THAT'LL TURN SUPERHEARING INTO A FESTIVAL OF PAIN.
THANKS TO YOU, THEY'LL BAG THE SLEEPER AGENT.
THANKS TO ME.

AND THE SACRIFICE OF A BROTHER KRYPTONIAN.
AS MY GENERAL COMMANDS. I HAVE NO PITY. I HAVE NO REMORSE. I HAVE ONLY MY MISSION. MY FUNCTION.
I AM A STONE.
AWAKE
PART 1 OF 3
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Special Thanks To
Dan Foster

HOW'S IT GOING, DC NATION?

After what seems like forever, we are finally getting back out on the road to travel the convention circuit and bring the DCU to your doorstep. Our first stop is Emerald City Comicon at the Washington State Convention Center in Seattle, Washington on March 13th and 14th. This is one of my absolute favorite shows to attend. Not only is Seattle amazing, but Emerald City Comicon also offers a truly fantastic experience for each and every fan. The show features a wonderfully diverse group of publishers, dealers, panels and guests, so you are sure to find something to be stoked about. Did I mention the guests? Oh boy, does Emerald City have some great guests lined up this year. Take a deep breath and take a look at this group:

Brian Azzarello, Kurt Busiek, Patrick Gleason, Brandon Jerwa, Geoff Johns, Aaron Lopresti, Kevin Maguire, Doug Mahnke, Dustin Nguyen, Mike Norton, James Robinson, Greg Rucka, Gail Simone, Philip Tan, Pete Tomasi, Eric Trautmann, Jen Van Meter, Len Wein, and JH Williams III.

Seriously – take another look at that list of names. How can you not want to join us at the show? If you can make it be sure to stop by and see us at DC Nation, Sunday Conversation and a special Green Lantern panel. This show sounds so awesome I'm actually bummed that I have to wait to go after writing this weeks in advance. If you don't live anywhere near the Pacific Northwest have no fear – the DC Nation 2010 tour will be in a town near you soon enough!

Be seeing you,

Ian Sattler
Senior Story Editor, DCU

DC NATION

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